

Appl. No. 10/764,200
Amdt Dated Jan. 4, 2008
Reply to Office Action Oct 26, 2007

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

First, applicant highly appreciates Examiner's careful review of the application and the allowance of claims 1, 3-5, 8-9, 11, 13-15, 21 and 22.

Claims 16, 17, 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(e) as being anticipated by Hardin (6,556,437). Examiner further points out that claim 18 is objected as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in dependent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, applicant has amended claim 16, and canceled claims 17 and 18. Claims 1, 3-5, 8-9, 11, 13-15, 19-22 remain unchanged. Thus, now claims 1, 3-5, 8-9, 11, 13-16, 19-22 are pending for examination.

Claims 16, 19-20

Applicant has amended claim 16 whereby it includes the features of the allowable claim 18 and its intervening claim 17. Thus, amended claim 16 is allowable, according to Examiner's indication. Claims 19-20 are also patentable since each of them depends from now allowable claim 16.

In view of the foregoing, the subject application as claimed in the pending claims is in a condition for allowance and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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